

# Pathways Local Management Entity

Report to the Legislative Oversight  
Committee

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# Items To Be Discussed

- Overview of Pathways LME
- Highlights of local accomplishments during reform
- Overview of a few significant challenges Pathways faces
- Suggestions on improvements to the system

# Pathways LME

- Covers Gaston, Lincoln and Cleveland Counties
- 2008 population = 374,208; 9<sup>th</sup> largest LME in the state
- Gaston-Lincoln Mental Health was established on July 1, 1965 and Cleveland County merged in 1999 to form Pathways.
- Prior to mental health reform, employed approximately 750 staff and directly provided care to approximately 70% of the consumers served
- Now have 60 LME funded staff and contracts/M.O.A.'s with 129 enhanced benefit providers

# Pathways' Community Data

- 124 Medicaid providers and 54 IPRS providers
- Last year 12,760 consumers served by the local system
- Penetration rate among the highest in the state in all age and disabilities, exceeding the state average in all categories.
- Unemployment in the area @ 10.0% compared to the statewide average of 7.9%
- Pathways is guardian to 169 wards

# 5 Successes Experienced During Reform

- Development of a comprehensive crisis continuum
- Consumer voice within the system
- Single stream funding
- High penetration rate
- Reduction in state hospital bed day utilization

# 5 Challenges/Frustrations

- Constant change
- Increased utilization with decreased funding
- Continuity of care challenges when providers cease operations
- Quality of care concerns where LME's have limited authority to impact
- Lack of coordination between the state and local system

# 5 Suggestions for Improvement

- Case management should be done by the LME
- Initial, comprehensive assessments should be done by the LME
- Figure out a way to have better collaboration between the state and LME's
- Rate setting based on outcomes
- Waiver

Thank you